Diversification of Projects by Jute Mills

*410. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH :
SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of jute mills which are engaged in diversification of their products after modernisation without resorting to any retrenchment; and

(b) how many of these mills have received modernisation loans from Government ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b) Out of the 29 applications received under the jute modernisation fund scheme two cases include a diversification proposed in the form of manufacture of jute carpets. The proposals do not envisage any retrenchment of permanent workers. One case has already been sanctioned and disbursement is yet to be made. The other case is under process.

Facility of Admission to Colleges for Repatriates from Uganda

*411. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that seats in the professional colleges reserved for the Ugandan repatriates are being denied to them;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government would review their decision and permit this facility to Ugandan repatriates for some more years ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) and (b) The facility of reservation of seats in the professional colleges is available only to those repatriates who have migrated during the last five years. As the repatriates from Uganda had migrated to India during 1972-73, they are not eligible.

(c) The Government does not consider it necessary to review the existing policy, as the repatriates from Uganda have since merged with the main-stream of national life.

Setting up of Currency Note Printing Press

*412. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY :
SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether M|s. Metallurgical and Engineering Consultants (India) Limited (MECON) have since submitted their detailed project report for the setting up of currency note printing presses in West Bengal and Karnataka;

(b) if so, what are the details of the report; and

(c) what is Goverment's reaction to the said report ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Project Report envisages setting up of one Press each at Salboni in West Bengal and Mysore in Karnataka with a capacity of 5000 million pieces of currency bank notes per annum. The estimated cost of the two Presses together is Rs. 1147.40 crores with a foreign exchange component of Rs. 490.50 crores. It will take 48 months to commission the Press after investment decision is taken.

(c) The Project Report has been circulated to various appraising agencies for their comments so as to enable the Government to take an investment decision.

Tax Concessions to Hamdard Dawakhana Organisations

*413. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA :

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report published in the 'Statesman' of the 1st May, 1988 to the effect that many charitable organisations of the Hamdard Dawakhana (Wakf) group had been converted into commercial concerns over the years and , therefore, had forfeited their right to be treated as charitable organisations and also to income-tax concessions, etc.; if so what are the names of all such charitable organisations, the nature of concessions granted to them and the yearly value of all such concessions;

(b) whether any inquity has been made in this regard, if so, what are the findings thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) how much money in each of the last three years and so far during the current year has actually been contributed by them towards 'Wakf' or Welfare of the community?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) Government is aware of the news-item that appeared in the 'Statesman' dated 1st May, 1988. The Income-Tax Department's records show that commercial activities are being carried on only by the premier organisation of the Group, namely, Hamdard Dawakhana (Wakf). In the assessment of Hamdard Dawakhana (Wakf) for and upto assessment year 1983-84, exemption from tax has been denied. The Wakf is disputing the assessment and has gone in appeals which are pending in various appelate courts. Section 2(15) of the Income-Tax Act defining 'charitable purposes' was amended with effect from 1-4-84. By virtue of this liberalised definition of charitable purpose and taking into consideration the fact that the income of the Wakf from commercial activities was being distributed and applied for chariatable purposes and it is having importance throughout India, it has been notified as exempt under section 10(23C)(iv) of the Income-Tax Act for assessment years 1984-85 to 1987-88. The petition for renewal of exemption under section 10(23C)(iv) beyond assessment year 1987-88 is pending. The assessing officer has been directed to examine the books of account of the Wakf thoroughly. The petition will be decided after the examination is completed by the assessing officer. Since the wakf has been decided as exempt by a notification under section 10(23C)(iv), it is not liable to file income-tax return. Therefore, the value of concession cannot be worked out accurately.

(c) M/s. Hamdard Dawakhana (Wakf) has donated the following amounts to M/s. Hamdard National Foundation (India) :—

Year ending	Amount donated (in rupees)
31-12-1985	1,16,70,680
31-12-1985	1,45,97,350
31-12-1987	1,84,00,000

The return of Income for the year ending 31-12-1988 is not yet due. The Hamdard National Foundation (India), which